

WHAT'S ON

Opekkhoman
Troupe: Nagorik Natya Sampradaya
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 22
Time: 7pm




Solo Cartoon Exhibition
Title: Time Line
Cartoonist: Sharier Khan
Venue: Galleri Kaya, H-20, Rd-16, Sec-4, Uttara
Date: June 14-27
Time: 11am-8pm



Art Exhibition
Title: Artistic Musings of Greats
Collector: Nasir Ali Mamun
Venue: Bengal Gallery, Dhanmondi
Date: June 14-July 5
Time: 12pm-8pm



Khona
Troupe: BotTala
Venue: Studio Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 23
Time: 7pm



Print & Art Exhibition
Artists: Ahmed Nazir and Some Renowned Artists of 30's & 40's
Venue: Gallery Chitrak, H-4, Rd-6, Dhanmondi
Date: June 20-July 5
Time: 10am-8pm



NEWS bytes

Unknown Neruda poems found

Chile's Pablo Neruda Foundation has found more than 20 previously unknown poems by the Nobel Prize winner. They were found while cataloguing some of the poet's manuscripts and experts have verified them as being genuine.

Neruda, who is best known for his collection "Twenty Love Poems" and "A Song of Despair", died in 1973.

The newly found poems - most of which were written after 1956 - will be published later this year in Latin America and in 2015 in Spain. They were discovered among sheaves of manuscripts in boxes and have been examined by experts, who authenticated them.

The Chilean poet is famous for both his passionate love poems and communist views.



Performance of pristine melodies

Khairul Anam Shakil at Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct



The artiste (2-L) performs at the event.

ZAHANGIR ALOM

The Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct, a centre for the promotion of traditional arts opened to the public on May 23 with a display of selected artworks by master painter SM Sultan -- titled "Poradrishi" ("Second Sight") -- hosted its third cultural event, on June 20.

Noted vocalist Khairul Anam Shakil performed in a solo classical soiree at the Precinct, as part of the series of programmes, focused on exhibit. The performance was held in the gallery amidst the evocative ambience of paintings and drawings of SM Sultan.

Khairul Anam Shakil started off his rendition with a kheyal performance set on a romantic raga Behag. The vilambit bandish "Kaise Sukh Sou" performance was on ektaal. Shakil skillfully gripped the apt melody in mandra saptak

and adorned his entire performance with ragdari. The artiste weaved a melodic garland covering notes of three octaves. His drut bandish "Alire Albeli" performance proceeded like boltan and was on teentaal.

Shakil's performance had many remarkable features including drut sargam taan, outstanding aakar taan, meend, fascinating murki, khatka and several marvelous pukar. Several tehai were also much-appreciated by the audience. Iftekhar Alam Prodhan produced a tabla lahora and Bizon Chandra Mistry on harmonium wove a musical whirlpool during the performance. Later, set on Raga Rageshree, the artiste presented two bandish -- "Beguni Ko Gun Di Jo" (on teentaal) and "Chyan Dhund Jogi Chyan Nehi Paye" (on ektaal). Rukhsana Karim Kanon on tanpura accompanied the artiste.

Shakil, a noted Nazrul Sangeet artiste of the country, has been performing kheyal at

prestigious classical music festivals. Initially, he received talim from Ustad Narayan Chandra Basak for five years. Later, he trained under renowned guru Ustad Mohammad Sagiruddin Khan for 8 years.

At the opening of the soiree, DG of Bengal Foundation Luva Nahid Choudhury spoke on SM Sultan's artistic creations along with a rundown of the forthcoming programmes to be organised by the Daily Star-Bengal Arts Precinct: Noted litterateur-poet Syed Shamsul Haq will recite modern poetry at 6pm on June 24. A conversation by three well known theorists titled "Prakriti and Purusha", representing women and men in Sultan's work, will be held at 3:30pm on July 1. A screening of a video-interview with filmmaker Tareque Masud, on the making of "Adam Surat" and his relationship with SM Sultan (2011) will be held at 3:30pm on July 12. Catherine Masud will introduce the film to the audience.

Chhayanaut welcomes monsoon

Sufia Kamal's birth anniversary observed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chhayanaut, one of the most noted schools of cultural practices in the country, organised a Borsha Utshab at their main auditorium on Friday, also observing the 103rd birth anniversary of luminary poet Sufia Kamal.

The programme opened with a kheyal presentation by Chhayanaut guru and eminent classical singer Dr. Rezwana Ali Lablu, on the monsoon raga Kedar Malhar. Mafidul Haq then delivered the welcome address, followed by solo and choral songs and group dances. Chhayanaut students danced to two chorus songs "Dhoroni'r Gogoner Miloner Chhonde" and "Jaye Jhilmil Jhilmil Dheu Tuley". Among others, Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Dalia Nausheen, Iffat Ara Dewan and Maidul Islam rendered solos at the programme. A capacity audience enjoyed popular Tagore and Nazrul songs on monsoon, rendered skillfully by the artistes. The programme came to a close with the choral rendition of the National Anthem, with the audience singing in unison.

Subir Ghosh and Goutam Sarkar accompanied in table, Almas Ali on violin, M Moniruzzaman on flute, Iftekhar Hossain on keys and Prodip Kumar Roy played the mandira.



A chorus rendition by artistes of Chhaynaut.

IT'S TRUE!

French artist Louis August Gustave Doré was labeled a "prodigy troublemaker" at the age of five, playing pranks that were mature beyond his years. Seven years later, he began carving in cement. At the age of fifteen Doré began his career working as a caricaturist for the French paper Le Journal pour rire, and subsequently went on to win commissions to depict scenes from books by Rabelais, Balzac, Milton and Dante. In the 1860s, he illustrated a French edition of Cervantes's "Don Quixote", and his depictions of the knight and his squire, Sancho Panza, have become so famous that they have influenced subsequent readers, artists, and stage and film directors' ideas of the physical "look" of the two characters.



Tagore as protagonist

Palakar stages "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol"

SAURAV DEY

Theatre troupe Palakar staged their popular production "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol" at the National Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) on Friday evening. The play was staged as part of the ongoing theatre festival -- "Jogote Anondo Jogge Amar Nimontron" -- marking Aatur Rahman's birthday.

The play has been written by noted author-playwright Syed Shamsul Haque, based on Tagore's "Chinnopotro" while Aatur Rahman --who has aptly directed several Tagore adaptations-- has directed it.

The timeline of the play spans the years 1889 to 1895. During these years Tagore wrote "Chinnopotro", portraying the scenic beauty of pastoral Bangladesh which he observed closely during his stay in



Shamim Shagor plays young Rabindranath.

Shiladah, Shahjadpur and Patishar to look after his family estates.

Otherwise stated, the play is an account of the bard cum-landlord's fascination for this land and how this fascination comes through in his writings. It also zooms in on Tagore's literary works, which were tremendously influenced by his experience of coming across rural Bangladesh. According to the play, his stay in Bengal inspired his literary works "Shamapti", "Chitrangada", "Chhuti" and "Postmaster".

The play also portrays how Tagore came in touch with Bauls, especially with Gagan Harkara. He was tremendously influenced by Baul songs and philosophy. It is believed that our national anthem -- "Amar Sonar Bangla" -- was inspired by Gagan Harkara's "Ami Kothay Pabo Tarey".

In the play, Shamim Sagor appears on stage as

Rabindranath. He endeavours to articulate the natural beauty of Bengal, the liberality of its people and the thought-provoking songs of Fakir Lalon which influenced the poet. The dialogues, recitations, songs and soliloquy all describe Tagore's love for East Bengal.

A naturalistic stage design coupled with an ingenious light setup created an idyllic ambience. In addition, Lalon's song and recitation of Tagore's poem brought forth the mystic nature of life. A boat has also been symbolically used in the play as Tagore used to love nature even as his boat carried him across the Padma.

In the play, Sahana Bappi appeared as Indira Devi. The cast also included Aminur Rahman Mukul, Shahrier Khan and many others.

Nagorik Natya Sampradaya will stage "Opekkhoman" at the Studio Theatre Hall at 7 pm today, as part of the festival.

Children's theatre fest in Barisal

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

A three-day children's theatre festival began in Barisal on Friday night. Shabdaboli Group Theatre (SGT) organised the festival at Ashwini Kumar Hall to celebrate 10 years of its associate organisation, Barisal Shishu Theatre (BST).

Syed Dulal, president of SGT and member-secretary of the festival, presided over the inaugural ceremony, inaugurated by Sahana Ara Begum, secretary of the festival and cultural organiser.

The inaugural session was addressed, among others, by Abdus Sobhan Shikdar, Principal Secretary at the office of the Prime Minister, Shohidul Alam, Deputy Commissioner Barisal and Faruk Hossain, secretary SGT.

On the first day of the festival, "Kaljatra" by Barisal Shishu Theatre and "Upaonok Samachar" by Bhor Holo Shishu Theatre of Bhola were staged, while dances were performed by Nriyangan of Barisal.

Animesh Saha Litu, coordinator of the festival, said discussions, cultural functions, poetry recitation, dances and plays would be staged over the last two days.

Colleagues remember Professor Hossain

AMINUL ISLAM, Mymensingh



Professor Khondakar Ashraf Hossain, a poet, writer and academic was remembered by his colleagues at Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University (JKKNIU) in Trishal upazila here recently.

Hossain, former-vice chancellor of JKKNIU, was also a prominent translator of literary works.

Marking the first death anniversary of the versatile talent, a discussion was held at JKKNIU conference room with Professor Md. Abul Bashar, treasurer of the university in the chair.

Professor Md. Nazrul Islam, Dean of Social Science faculty; Professor Emdadul Huda, head of English Language and Literature and Sohel Rana of Finance and Banking Department took part in the discussion, among others.

Born in Joy Nagar village of Jamalpur in 1950, Hossain completed his honours and masters in English from Dhaka University. He went to Leeds University for further studies.

He joined JKKNIU as the third vice chancellor of the university on May 6 last year.

The speakers said that Hossain was devoted to Bengali literature and contributed to the field through his versatile writings.

His poems and prose published in Bengali and English have contributed to our literature, said the speakers.

He translated many literary works into Bengali from German and English, the speakers concluded.

Another meeting remembering Hossain was held at Sufia Kamal auditorium of National Museum on Monday. Professor Mohit Ull Alam, vice-chancellor of JKKNIU was present at the programme.

Hossain was honoured with Alaul Sahitya Purashkar, Jibananda Purashkar and Pashchimbanga Little Magazine Purashkar.

Bratachari Workshop concludes at BSA

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A four-day Bratachari training workshop followed by a demonstration concluded at the National Art Plaza of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on June 20 evening. Ramendu Majumdar, President of International Theatre Institute (ITI), was present as chief guest at the programme, while Dr. Sanjida Khatun, Tagore exponent and president of Bratachari, Bangladesh presided over it. Ramendu Majumdar gave a speech on Bratachari and Gurusaday Dutta, and handed over certificates to the trainees. Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy assisted Bratachari Bangladesh in making the programme a success.



Theatre troupe Swapnadal staged their anti-war production "Tringsha Shatabdi", at the Studio Theatre Hall of the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy on June 19. Written by Badal Sircar, the play is based on the tragic after-effects of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombing during World War II. Zahid Repon has adapted and directed the play, which saw its 64th staging on the day.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR FAVOURITE MARVEL SUPERHEROES



The Daily Star | STAR Cineplex

X-MEN QUIZ CONTEST

10 winners everyday! 2 Premium tickets for each winner

Quiz 05

1. Who played the character named Storm?

2. Who played the character named Hank/Beast?

Answer of quiz 04

1. Simon Kinberg; 2. John Goldman

Quiz 04 winners

1. Subah Anbar Ali, Gulshan; 2. Sharmin Jasmin, Banani; 3. Sumeyra Aylin Tuba, Banani; 4. Asma Khatun Esha, Green Road; 5. Rashid Saadman Karim, Dhaka Cantonment; 6. Rumman Tabassum Preema, Dhaka Cantonment; 7. Fahim Islam, Moogbar; 8. Rono Islam, Old town; 9. Meghna Jabonno, Uttara; 10. Arafat Hossain, Shyamoli.

email your answers to marvels.xmen@gmail.com by 4.00pm today with your name, DOB, mobile number and address. The winners of the quiz will be announced tomorrow in the newspaper and through email.